

City of Kirkland Tourism News Release 123 – Fifth Avenue Kirkland, WA 98033 www.explorekirkland.com

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Kirkland voted "best city" by 425 Magazine readers

City receives top honors two years in a row

For the second year in a row, Kirkland, Wash., was voted "favorite city" in the annual "Best of 425" competition by readers of 425 Magazine.

As part of the award description, 425 Magazine staff encouraged readers to consider Kirkland a destination city and make a day of it —visiting Juanita Bay Park, taking a Lake Washington cruise, and enjoying the city's well-known restaurants and wine bars. Kirkland's lakeside setting and outstanding views of the Olympic Mountains have long delighted residents and visitors to the area.

With more than two miles of prime lakeside footage -- the largest publically owned water frontage on the Eastside – and 45 public parks and beaches, Kirkland offers unlimited options for activities all year long, Summer, though, is when the city really shines. From fun-spirited grill-offs to fresh organic produce, classic cars to stately tall ships, Kirkland's lively waterfront is the place to be.

Here are some great ways to unwind and enjoy the waterfront in Kirkland this summer:

<u>July 19-21: Kirkland Uncorked:</u> This is one of the city's signature summertime events, and many of Kirkland's tasting rooms and wine shops participate in this popular festival. Enjoy the outdoor setting, water breezes, music, art displays and gourmet delicacies. <u>www.kirklanduncorked.com</u>

<u>July 28: 11th Annual Kirkland Classic Car Show:</u> This is one of the biggest car shows on the Eastside, filling the downtown streets with some 400 amazing classic cars and motorcycles. <u>www.kirklandclassiccarshow.com</u>

<u>August 9-11: Summerfest:</u> This is the second year for this Kirkland arts and music extravaganza. Last year's event was a huge success with live bands, a Shakespearean performance, gourmet food trucks, art displays, wine and beer garden and children's activities. This year's line-up will be equally as diverse and entertaining. Admission is free. www.kirklandsummerfest.com

<u>Aug. 10-17: Junior Softball World Series:</u> What's better than summer and softball? See the best Little League teams in the world at this annual junior championship series. <u>www.jrsoftballworldseries.com</u>

<u>August 27-Sept. 2: Tall Ships:</u> Get a taste of life on the high seas! The tall ships are becoming a beloved Kirkland tradition. More information on sailings and tickets to be announced soon.

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To learn more about Kirkland events and activities, visit www.explorekirkland.com.